



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR BAYLOR COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

SEYMOUR, TEXAS, January 24, 2006-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that Baylor County Hospital District was selected to receive \$30,000 through the agency's Community Facilities Grant Program. The grant funds will be pooled with funding from the Seymour Hospital Foundation and the Hospital District to purchase a 250 Kilowatt emergency generator to replace the inadequate 1968 generator that is currently in use. During a severe storm last spring, power failure required the hospital to rely on their generator and function with only 15% of the needed power for the facility.

"This funding will ensure the Baylor County Hospital is able to provide uninterrupted medical care in the event of a power outage," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing assistance to rural towns and communities to help them provide valuable services to their residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, a total of \$991,000 in Community Facility Grants was obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Abilene Local Office at (325) 690-6162, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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